

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. : 09/763,419 Confirmation No. 6244  
Applicant : Abdul Malik  
Filed : 07/19/2001  
Art Unit : 1743  
Examiner : Arlen Soderquist  
Docket No. : 1372.220PRCWOUS  
For : Capillary Column and Method of Making

Faxed to Technology Center 1700 at (703) 872-9311  
Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Examiner's Action mailed January 5, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire April 5, 2004, Applicants have the following remarks:

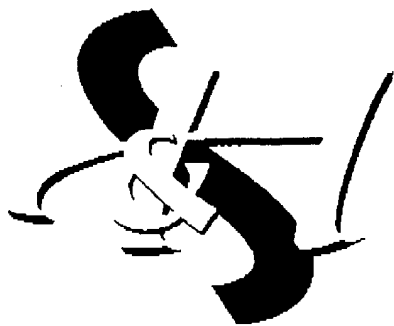
REMARKS

Applicants have carefully studied the final Examiner's Action mailed January 5, 2004 and all references cited therein. The explanatory remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Action. Accordingly, this important patent application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

*Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103*

Claims 1-6 and 8-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over "Wang or Hayes in view of Ogden or Sumpter."

Applicants traverse this rejection, as both of the primary cited references are improper. The Wang article was authored by the presently named inventors, as well as another (Sau L. Chong), having a publication date of November 15, 1997. And the Hayes reference was also authored by one

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To: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office	From: Anton J. Hopen
Attn: Arlen Soderquist	Client: 1372.220.PRCWOUS
Fax: (703) 872-9311	Pages: 8 including coversheet
Phone: (571) 272-1265	Date: March 22, 2004
Re: USSN: 09/763,419	CC: University of South Florida

☐ Urgent    ☒ For Review    ☐ Please Comment    ☐ Please Reply    ☐ Please Recycle

Dear Examiner Soderquist:

Enclosed please find the following:

1. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal under 37 CFR 1.114 dated March 22, 2004 (2 pages);
2. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 in the amount of \$385.00 to cover the RCE filing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e);
3. Amendment AF (4 pages); and
4. Declaration of Prior Invention under 37 CFR 1.131 (1 page).

Very respectfully,

Anton J. Hopen

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